

CHAPTER 12

SECTION 7.2

TRICARE OVERSEAS PROGRAM (TOP) - PRIME AND STATUS CHANGES

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I. POLICY

A. When the TRICARE eligibility status changes, eligibility for TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) Prime benefits also changes.

B. When TRICARE eligibility ends, eligibility for TOP Prime ceases.

C. When a TOP enrollee has a change in status, verified on DEERS, and fails to notify the TOP MTF Commander or Lead Agent, but submits claims for health services, the contractor will process the claim following existing TOP standard cost sharing provisions. The contractor will send a copy of the claim and EOB to the appropriate TOP Lead Agent. The TOP Lead Agent, or designee, is responsible for disenrollment of the beneficiary from TOP Prime (as of the date of his/her change in status) and for advising the beneficiary of his/her status change and options for reenrollment.

D. For active duty family members, single enrollment can be changed to family at any time during the TOP enrollment period. A new TOP enrollment period shall be established for the family.

E. In cases of a change from single status to family based on the birth of a child or adoption, the new family member of the TOP Prime enrollee will be considered enrolled as of the day of birth or adoption and given up to 120 days to decide whether to continue TOP Prime or disenroll the child.

NOTE: The automatic enrollment in TOP Prime of a new family member does not apply in the case of a reservist who has been called to active duty for a period of less than 179 days, since the dependents of the reservist are not eligible to enroll in TOP Prime.

F. TOP enrollees may disenroll in TOP Prime at any time if the enrollee is moving out of OCONUS, or if the enrollee requests voluntary disenrollment during the anniversary date. All other voluntary disenrollments require approval of the MTF Commander or Lead Agent. If approval is not granted, the enrollee may appeal the decision to the Lead Agent.

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